

French NGOs slam Amazon environmental impact ahead of 'Black Friday'

November 24 2019



Deux ONG et l'union syndicale Solidaires ont dénoncé le 24 novembre 2019 l'impact social et environnemental d'Amazon

Two French environmental NGOs and a union group on Sunday slammed the environmental impact of Amazon, vowing to disrupt its

"Black Friday" sale campaign later this week.

The NGOs Attac and les Amis de la Terre, as well as the Solidaires association of unions, said in a report that the "world according to Amazon is not sustainable".

But Amazon said in a statement to AFP that it rejected the "erroneous" information put forward by the groups, saying their report contained numerous factual errors and speculation lacking foundation.

The three groups pledged to turn the upcoming Black Friday on November 29 into a "Black Day for Amazon" by staging dozens of demonstrations across France to protest the policies of the company.

There were no details on the nature of the demos but Attac has in the past staged unannounced protests outside Amazon facilities.

Their statement accused Amazon of increasing greenhouse gas emissions through rapid delivery services, of destroying unsold products and showing a lack of transparency in its carbon budget.

Putting together information from all the three groups, it accused Amazon of being responsible for 55.8 million tonnes of [greenhouse gas emissions](#), the equivalent of all the emissions of Portugal.

Meanwhile, the report claimed that Amazon's practices involved "considerable waste", with some three million new products destroyed by Amazon in France alone in 2018.

It also charged that Amazon worldwide hired people on insecure, short term contracts, meaning that "for every job created by Amazon, two are destroyed".

The groups also accused Amazon—which has its European headquarters in Luxembourg, of tax avoidance, an issue which has already seen the company in the crosshairs of the French authorities.

The report alleged Amazon hid 57 percent of its sales in France, a charge denied by the [company](#).

The French parliament earlier this year defied US anger to pass a law taxing companies like Amazon, Google, Facebook or Apple for revenues accrued in the country, even if they are not based there.

© 2019 AFP

Citation: French NGOs slam Amazon environmental impact ahead of 'Black Friday' (2019, November 24) retrieved 20 April 2024 from <https://techxplore.com/news/2019-11-french-ngos-slam-amazon-environmental.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.